## REMARKS

The Non-Final Office Action, mailed August 17, 2009, considered claims 1, 3-8, 10-13, 16, 19-22, 28, 30, 33 & 34. Claims 1, 3-4, 6, 33 & 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meik et al., U.S. Patent Publ. No. 2005/0108200A1 (hereinafter *Meik*) in view of Do et al., U.S. Patent Publ. No. 2002/0170042A1 (hereinafter *Do*) further in view of Rowen et al., U.S. Patent Publ. No. 2007/0174113A1 (hereinafter *Rowen*). Claims 7, 10-12, 16, 20 & 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Meik* in view of Gargi et al., U.S. Patent Publ. No. 2005/0027712A1 (hereinafter *Gargi*) further in view of *Do* yet further in view of *Rowen*. Claims 5, 8 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Meik* in view of *Gargi* further in view of Omoigui et al., U.S. Patent Publ. No. 2003/0126136A1 (hereinafter *Omoigui*). Claims 28 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Meik* in view of *Gargi* further in view of *Rowen*. Claims 19 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Meik* in view of *Gargi* further in view of *Do* yet further in view of *Rowen* even further in view of *Omoigui*.

By this response, claims 1, 5-8, 16, 19 and 28 are amended, claims 3-4, 10-13 and 34 cancelled, and claims 36-42 are newly presented, such that claims 1, 5-8, 16, 19-22, 28, 30, 33 and 35-41 are pending and of which claims 1, 16, 28, and 41 are the only independent claims at issue. Support for the amendments is found throughout the specification and the previously presented claims, including, but not limited to the disclosure found in paragraphs [0035], [0041]-[0049], [0057]-[0058], [0086]-[0090], [0095]-[0097], [0099], [0102] and Figures 2-3, 11-12 and 16-18 of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0235011.

The claims are generally directed to embodiments for centrally managed object classification to facilitate the use of unrelated software tools. For example, claim 16 recites a method for managing classifying information in a centrally managed common classification structure. According the method of claim 16, user input is received. The user input is related to a taxonomy that is associated with a common classification structure. The common classification structure is made up of a plurality of nodes, and is based on a structure type.

The structure type describes a pattern to which instances of the plurality of nodes should conform. The structure type comprises one or more node types, a structure type class, and structural constraints. Each node type defines a type of artifact that may be included in the common classification structure. The structure type class describes how the plurality of nodes that correspond to the node types may be assembled into a hierarchy. The structure type class further holds a name of the structure type, and also identifies that the common classification structure associated with the taxonomy is a hierarchy. The structural constraints define permissible parent-child relationship between the node types.

The common classification structure is instantiated for the taxonomy based on the structure type. The common classification structure is exposed to unrelated software design tools as typed XML (eXtensible Markup Language) documents. XML representations of each node are typed according to the name of the structure type (held in the structure type class). The common classification structure is maintained to facilitate interaction with taxonomy artifacts by the unrelated software design tools. Each of the design tools controls at least one of the taxonomy artifacts.

The common classification structure is monitored to detect manipulations of the common classification structure. Automatic notifications are provided to users upon receiving input manipulating the common classification structure. User feedback is received in response to the notifications. The user feedback indicates that the manipulation is allowed, and the manipulation is allowed based on the user feedback. The users are informed of the manipulation.

Claim 1 recites a computer implemented system that is generally related to the method of claim 16, for managing classifying information in a centrally managed common classification structure. Claim 41 recites a computer program product for performing the method of claim 16.

Claim 28 recites a method that is generally related to the method of claim 16. Claim 28 more particularly defines a method for managing classifying information in common enterprise classification scheme.

The claims were rejected as being obvious in view of *Meik, Gargi, Do, Rowen,* and *Omoigui*. In view of the current amendments and newly presented claims however, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references fail to disclose or suggest each limitation of the pending claims for at least the following reason.

*Meik* is generally directed to automatic document and/or text categorization, including automatically assigning arbitrary text to a predefined category. Accordingly, *Meik* provides "an interactive document retrieval system that is designed to search for documents after receiving a search query from a requestor." (paragraph [0083]). *Meik* accomplishes this by providing a search engine with a "modular architecture" comprising three "central modules" that are "simultaneously designed" (paragraphs [0160] and [0167]). These modules include a Filtering Module, an Analysis Module, and a Knowledge Database. (see paragraphs [0167]-[0181]). However, *Meik* fails to disclose or suggest, among other things, *a common classification structure that includes a plurality of nodes* that is based upon *a structure type that describes a pattern to which instances of the plurality of nodes should conform*, and wherein the structure type comprises *node types, a structure type class, and structural constraints*, as recited by claims 16 and 28 and particularly when considered in combination with the other limitations of claims 16 and 28. Furthermore, *Meik* fails to disclose or suggest, among other things, *exposing the common classification structure among a plurality of unrelated software design tools* as XML documents, as well as the notification/feedback mechanism recited by claims 16 and 28. To illustrate, the "simultaneously designed" and "central" modules of *Meik* fail to disclose or suggest, among other things, *a plurality of unrelated software design tools*.

*Gargi* fails to overcome at least these deficiencies of *Meik*. *Gargi* generally discloses a method of organizing a collection of objects, including segmenting objects into clusters based on context-related meta data associated with the objects. (paragraph [0012]). *Gargi* was cited for alleged teachings of hierarchy, structure type class, and structural constraints. (page 12, "Gargi et al teaching of clusters, meta data and hierarchy is equivalent to Applicant's teaching of hierarchy, class and constraints"). However, Applicants respectfully disagree. To illustrate, *Gargi* recites, "context-related meta data may correspond to information relating to the times

when the objects were generated [including] the year, day, hour, and minute when a (sic) object is generated." (paragraph [0072]). Such a recitation fails to disclose or suggest, among other things, a structure type class *that describes how the plurality of nodes . . . may be assembled into a hierarchy [and that] holds a name of the structure type*, or structural constraints *that define permissible parent-child relationships between . . . node types* (see claims 16 and 28, for example).

*Do* recites a method for determining a sequence of implementation of elements of a software design. *Do* mentions that documentation may be in the form of markup language documents (e.g. XML), and that data may be transferred to UML via XML. (paragraphs [0075] and [0120]) In addition to failing at least to overcome the foregoing deficiencies of *Meik* and *Gargi*, *Do* also fails to disclose or suggest *wherein an XML representation of each node is typed according to the name of the structure type* (see claims 16 and 28, for example).

*Rowen* discusses managing incentives within an organization, while *Omoigui* discusses knowledge retrieval, management, delivery, and presentation. However, each of these references fails at least to overcome the foregoing deficiencies of *Meik, Gargi*, and *Do*. For at this reason, the independent claims and corresponding dependent claims are patentable over the cited references. However, a number of claims also distinguish over the cited references for other reasons as well. For example, the cited references fail disclose or suggest at least the additional limitations recited new claims 35-40.

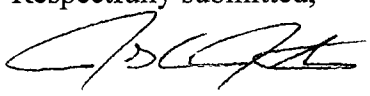
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all the rejections to the independent claims are now moot and that the independent claims are now allowable over the cited references, such that any of the remaining rejections and assertions made, particularly with respect to the dependent claims, do not need to be addressed individually at this time. It will be appreciated, however, that this should not be construed as Applicants acquiescing to any of the purported teachings or assertions made in the last action regarding the cited references or the pending application, and particularly with regard to the dependent claims.[1]

[1] Instead, Applicants reserve the right to challenge any of the purported teachings or assertions made in the last action at any appropriate time in the future, should the need arise. Furthermore, although the prior art status of the cited art is not being challenged at this time, Applicants reserve the right to challenge the prior art status of the

In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at 801-533-9800.

Dated this 2nd day of November, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,



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cited art at any appropriate time, should it arise. Accordingly, any arguments and amendments made herein should not be construed as acquiescing to any prior art status of the cited art.